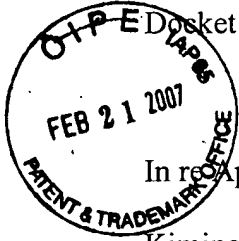


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Docket No.: 050203-0149

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re | : | Customer Number: 31824 |
| Application of | : | |
| Kiminobu HIRATA, et al. | : | Confirmation Number: 4387 |
| | : | |
| Application No.: 10/576,720 | : | Group Art Unit: 3748 |
| | : | |
| 371(c) Date: December 13, 2006 | : | Examiner: Not Yet Assigned |
| | : | |
| For: ENGINE CONTROL APPARATUS | : | |
| AND ENGINE OPERATING | : | |
| METHOD | : | |

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

References (2) to (4) were cited in an International Preliminary Report on Patentability and a Written Opinion dated June 6, 2006, issued in corresponding International Application No.

Application No. 10/576,720

PCT/JP2004/013307. An English-language translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and the Written Opinion is also enclosed.

Copies of references (2), (3) and (5) are enclosed. Please note that a copy of reference (4) is not available. English-language abstracts accompany references (2) and (3).

Reference (1) is the English-language equivalent of reference (2) and reference (5) is the English-language equivalent of reference (4).

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 20, 2007
ORC 407098-1.050203.0149

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SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION IN AN
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
050203-0149SERIAL NO.
10/576,720APPLICANT
Kiminobu HIRATA, et al.371(c) DATE
December 13, 2006GROUP
3748

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| | 2 | JP-2003-254048 | 09-10-2003 | Kojima, et al. | | (abstract) |
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OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | CITE NO. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
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EXAMINER

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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